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PATENT

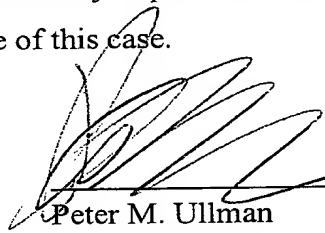
REMARKS

Applicants request entry of the amendment contained in this paper in order to update the priority information contained in the first paragraph of the specification. The amendment: (1) updates the reference to prior application no. 09/483,113 in order to note that this application has now issued as patent no. 6,727,884, and (2) includes a reference to the priority provisional case (no. 60/127,972) to which 09/483,113 claims priority.

Applicants note that the filing receipt for this case identifies both priority cases. Thus, this amendment merely makes the first paragraph of the application consistent with the data stated on the filing receipt. Additionally, applicants note that the normal time limit relating to priority claims (four months after the filing date) does not apply to this case because it was filed prior to November 29, 2000. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(2)(ii)(B).

For the foregoing reasons, applicants respectfully request that the amendment be entered under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 prior to issuance of this case.

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